S/N 09/845,648
Docket: YOR920010396US1

IN THE CLAIMS:
The current claims read as follows:

1. (Previously presented) A computer method comprising:

    i) providing a department store space-requirements database comprising a compendium of individual department store space-requirements history;

    ii) providing a department store space-availability database comprising a compendium of at least one of department store space management solutions, department store space information, and department store space diagnostics;

    and

    iii) employing a data mining technique for interrogating said department store space-requirements and department store space-availability databases for generating an output data stream, said output data stream correlating a department store space-requirements problem with a department store space-availability solution.

2. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising:

    updating the department store space-requirements database.

3. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 2, wherein said updating the department store space-requirements database comprises including the results of employing a data mining technique.

4. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising:

    updating the department store space-availability database.

2

S/N 09/845,648
Docket: YOR920010396US1

5. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 4, wherein said updating the

department store space-availability database comprises including the effects of employing a

data mining technique on the department store space-requirements database.

6. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 2, further comprising:

refining an employed data mining technique in cognizance of pattern changes

embedded in each database as a consequence of updating the department store

space-requirements database.

7. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 4, further comprising:

refining an employed data mining technique in cognizance of pattern changes

embedded in each database as a consequence of updating the department store

space-availability database.

8. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising:

employing neural networks as the data mining technique.

9. (Previously presented) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly

embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for

providing an interactive department store space management database, the method

comprising:

i) providing a department store space-requirements database comprising a

compendium of individual department store space-requirements history;

3

ii) providing a department store space-availability database comprising a compendium of at least one of department store space management solutions, department store space information, and department store space diagnostics;

and

iii) employing a data mining technique for interrogating said department store space-requirements and department store space-availability databases for generating an output data stream, said output data steam correlating a department store space-requirements problem with a department store space-availability solution.

10. (Previously presented) A computer comprising:

i) means for inputting a department store space-requirements database comprising a compendium of individual department store space-requirements history;

ii) means for inputting a department store space-availability database comprising a compendium of at least one of department store space management solutions, department store space information, and department store space diagnostics;

iii) means for employing a data mining technique for interrogating said department store space-requirements and department store space-availability databases;

and

iv) means for generating an output data stream, said output data stream correlating a department store space-requirements problem with a department store space-availability solution.

4

S/N 09/845,648
Docket: YOR920010396US1

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said neural networks classify

features of said department store space-requirements and features of said department store

space availability.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein said correlating a department

store space-requirements problem with a department store space-availability solution

comprises determining whether a match exists between a classification of features of said

department store space-requirement determined to be a problem and a classification of

features of said department store space-availability.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said data mining technique

comprises at least one of:

    classification-neural;

    classification-tree;

    clustering-geographic;

    clustering-neural;

    factor analysis;

    principal component analysis; and

    expert systems.

14. (Previously presented) The program storage device of claim 9, wherein said data mining

technique comprises at least one of:

    classification-neural;

5

S/N 09/845,648
Docket: YOR920010396US1

    classification-tree;

    clustering-geographic;

    clustering-neural;

    factor analysis;

    principal component analysis; and

    expert systems.

15. (Previously presented) The computer of claim 10, wherein said data mining technique comprises at least one of:

    classification-neural;

    classification-tree;

    clustering-geographic;

    clustering-neural;

    factor analysis;

    principal component analysis; and

    expert systems.

6